

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please replace the paragraph at page 35, lines 2 through 6 with the following amended paragraph:

A system is provided for balancing state of charge among plural series connected electrical energy storage units that includes a power converter that selectively couples to an individual storage unit of the a string of electrical energy storage units and bidirectionally transfers energy ~~by bidirectionally~~ between the individual storage unit and the string of storage units.